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MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1949.

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STALIN OFFERS TO OUTLAW WAR

With Co-operation Of The U.S.A.

PREPARED TO MEET MR TRUMAN & DRAFT PACT

Moscow, Jan. 30.—Generalissimo Stalin said today that the Soviet Union was ready to make a joint declaration with the United States outlawing war, and offered to meet President Truman to draft such a peace pact.

Marshal Stalin was replying to a questionnaire submitted to him by the Hearst-owned International News Service.

In his reply, broadcast by Moscow Radio, he also said that the Soviet Union would co-operate with the United States in gradual disarmament measures.

Marshal Stalin said he would have no objection to meeting President Truman for the purposes of drafting a world peace pact. Asked whether the Soviet Government would be prepared to consider, along with the United States, a programme such as gradual disarmament, Marshal Stalin said that the Soviet Union could co-operate with the United States in carrying measures which would lead to a gradual disarmament.

Marshal Stalin said that if the Governments of the United States, Britain and France would agree to the postponement of the creation of a separate West German State until a Foreign Ministers Council could meet to consider the German problem as a whole, the Soviet Union would see no obstacles to the lifting of the transport restrictions in Berlin.

He said it would be necessary however that the transport and trade restrictions introduced in retaliation by the three powers be lifted.

Marshal Stalin's statements were made in answer to a series of questions put by Mr Kingsbury Smith, European General Manager of the Hearst-owned International News Service, of America, submitted on January 27.

The questions and Marshal Stalin's answers were broadcast tonight by Moscow Radio.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The text of the questions and answers were:

1.—Will the Soviet Government be ready to discuss the question of publishing, together with the United States, a declaration that neither Government has any intention of going to war against the other?

Marshal Stalin: "The Soviet Government would be ready to consider the question of publishing such a declaration."

2.—Is the Soviet Government prepared to co-operate with the United States Government in taking measures aimed at bringing about such a world peace pact which would lead to a gradual disarmament?

Marshal Stalin: "Naturally the Soviet Government would be ready to co-operate with the United States Government in adopting measures which would lead towards the realisation of a peace pact and to gradual disarmament."

communications between Berlin and the Western Zones of Germany?

Marshal Stalin: "Provided the three Governments concerned observe the conditions mentioned in this question, the Soviet Government sees no objections to lifting the transport restrictions, provided that the restrictions on transport and trade imposed by the three powers are lifted at the same time."

WILLING TO MEET

4.—Is Your Excellency prepared to meet President Truman at a mutually suitable place for the purpose of discussing the possibility of such a world pact?

Marshal Stalin: "I have already stated that there are no objections to such a meeting."

Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent writes:

The Soviet Premier's expressed wish for better relations with the Western powers, contained in his statement made to a United States news agency in Moscow, caused a stir in diplomatic quarters in London this evening.

Observers in London immediately drew the conclusion that the essence of Marshal Stalin's statement was his offer to call off the Berlin blockade provided that Britain, France and the United States held up the creation of a separate West German Government until the whole problem of Germany had been discussed again on a four-power basis at the Council of Foreign Ministers.

This appeal was interpreted in London as a last-minute bid to prevent the final splitting of Germany by the setting up of a West German Government, now expected to take place in the spring.—Reuter.

NO OFFICIAL REACTION

Washington, Jan. 30.—Generalissimo Stalin's statement that he would be prepared to meet President Truman to discuss the differences between the two nations was brought to the President's attention immediately here today, but there was no official word of his reaction.

The State Department declared, however, that the Soviet Government had made no formal move to initiate the meeting between the two leaders.

Mr Michael McDermott, the Press Officer, said the United States Government has not had "any request, communication or approach of any sort."

It was immediately recalled that Mr Truman has repeatedly asserted he would be ready to meet Generalissimo Stalin, but he had just as repeatedly insisted that he would not leave Washington to do this.

"PEACE OFFENSIVE"

Whether Marshal Stalin regards Washington as a "mutually acceptable" place is probably not known outside the Kremlin.

Meantime, it seemed to diplomatic observers here that Generalissimo Stalin's statement is "the big push" in Russia's so-called "peace offensive" and that recent pronouncements by Communist leaders urging a Stalin-Truman meeting were designed as a "curtain raiser" for today's big development.

(Continued on Page 5)

Five American Soldiers Burnt To Death

Tokyo, Jan. 30.—Five American soldiers were burnt to death and 10 others are missing in a fire which destroyed an Air Force barracks at Yokota airbase near Tokyo early today.

Five others were seriously injured in the fire and have been taken to hospital. Twelve other victims, who were slightly injured, were given medical attention at the base.

According to an official announcement by General MacArthur's Public Information Office, the fire was noticed by a sergeant at 2.45 a.m. He was awakened by the heat, saw the flames and immediately sounded the alarm, but the flames had made considerable headway before discovery.

Ninety men were in the barracks at the time of the fire.—Reuter.

Separate Peace For Shanghai, Nanking?

REPORTED BROADCAST BY REDS

Shanghai, Jan. 31.—A Shanghai news agency reported last night that it has monitored a Communist Radio broadcast to the effect that the Communist leaders have agreed to the proposal for a separate peace for the Shanghai-Nanking area.

The report lacks confirmation from other sources which monitor the North Shensi Radio. It is known however that Mr Chang Hsien-hua, a member of the Legislative Yuan and one of the key figures in the proposal for a separate peace for the Shanghai-Nanking area, has been busy here exchanging views with local civic leaders on the question.

It is said that most of the leaders contacted by Mr Chang have agreed to his proposal. But the so-called "diehards" among the Chinese politicians are reported to be vigorously opposing the plan.

An unconfirmed Chinese report this morning said Madame Sun Yat-sen, the widow of the "Father of the Chinese Republic," has returned the letter from President Li Tsung-jen inviting her to go to Nanking to take an active part in the nationwide peace movement.

Madame Sun Yat-sen intends to keep out of politics and devote herself to child welfare work, the report added.

Although the response hitherto has been poor, Shanghai civic leaders, headed by the industrial magnate, Mr Tu Yueh-sen, and the Chairman of the City Council, Mr Pan Kung-chen, are continuing their preparations for a meeting of delegates from all provincial and municipal councils throughout the country to discuss measures for the "peace and national salvation movement."

The date set for the meeting is February 10 but a postponement is probable.—Reuter.

PEACE HOPES BLASTED

Nanking, Jan. 30.—A group of 34 pro-Communist liberals, headed by Marshal Li Chi-sen tonight, denounced the Nationalist government peace pact as a "huge fraud instigated by American imperialism." The statements were broadcast over the Communist North Shensi radio. The bitter denunciation blasted peace hopes, which had risen slightly when Communist leaders reportedly assured President Li Tsung-jen's emissary in Peiping that the Red high command would soon set the opening of peace talks.

Marshal Li, chairman of the pro-Communist Kuomintang Revolutionary Committee with headquarters in Hongkong, asked the people of China "fight for the realisation of Mao Tse-tung's eight-point plan to attain a genuine peace." The Communist leader's eight-point plan amounted to a demand for unconditional surrender by the Nationalist government.

The Communist radio said that 34 South China liberals held a mass meeting in Mukden in which the speakers accused President Chiang Kai-shek of planning to fight on with American aid while talking peace.

CAMPAIGN BY AGENTS

A larger group of liberals, including Marshal Li, recently met in North China where they denounced the Nationalist regime. The Chinese Communist Party leaders themselves took one day holiday from blasting the government.

It was learned that mysterious agents of Marshal Li, meanwhile, have opened a campaign behind government lines to induce Nanking

Another Harlech Road Robbery Yesterday

HOLD-UP ON PEAK

A man and his sister who were hiking on the Peak yesterday afternoon were held up by three robbers, and Mr F. P. Franklin of 34 The Peak, who saw the incident from his house attempted to apprehend the men, but they escaped.

The man, Chow Li-chee, and his sister, Chow Fong-yuen, who live in Kowloon, were roughly handled by the robbers. The man was badly knocked about the face, while the woman, before the robbers relieved her of a wristlet watch and two rings, was kicked several times.

Mr Franklin saw, this through field glasses from his house, the robbery taking place some 700 yards away.

Suspecting that a hold-up was being made, Mr Franklin set out with a revolver, the police in the meantime being informed by telephone.

MEN CHALLENGED

He observed three men walking in single file towards the intersection of Lugard, Harlech and Hutton roads. As they increased their pace, Mr Franklin challenged them across the Hutton Road, a few hundred yards from Lugard Road.

One of the men immediately made the gesture of drawing a gun and pointing it at Mr Franklin, who drew his revolver and fired.

Two of the suspected robbers immediately dashed into cover, while the third was ordered to put up his hands, which he did.

He was then told to come forward, and made a pretence of doing so, but as soon as he reached the lower level of Hutton Road, he dived into the undergrowth beneath the bank and disappeared.

The victims of the hold-up, who were suffering from shock, were given first-aid treatment at Mr Franklin's residence.

The man's left eye was badly injured and he is now in the Queen Mary Hospital.

Israeli Elections Left Wing Parties Win Control

LABOUR POLLS HEAVILY

Tel-Aviv, Jan. 30.—The left-wing parties—the MAPAI (Labour) and MAPAM (leftwing Socialists) and the Communists—will control more than half the seats in the Israeli Constituent Assembly.

It is expected that the Prime Minister, Mr David Ben Gurion's, new Government will be "left of centre," excluding the Communists and taking in the Centre parties.

FULL RESULTS

The full election results, including the Army vote, which has taken five days to count, are:

MAPAI—152,972 votes. MAPAM—107,107. United Religious Party—52,033. Heruth (formerly the Irgun Zvai Leumi)—49,220. General Zionists (rightwing Centre)—22,514. Progressives (leftwing Centre)—17,680. Sephardim—15,017. Communists—14,999.

The total number of votes cast was 427,029.

The only other parties getting sufficient votes to entitle them to Council seats were: Nazareth Arabs—7,387. Fighters (Stern Gang terrorists)—5,299. Yemenites—4,869. Women's International Zionist Organisation—4,017.

The exact percentage of the total vote was not revealed for "security reasons," but it was known to be heavy. The exact allocation of Assembly seats is not expected to be officially revealed before Wednesday.—Reuter.

FREIGHTER'S SOS

The Hague, Jan. 30.—The 2,207-ton Finnish freighter, Sakunkanta, sent out an SOS call tonight that she was sinking in the North Sea between the islands of Schiermonnikoog and Rottumeroog, Northern Holland.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

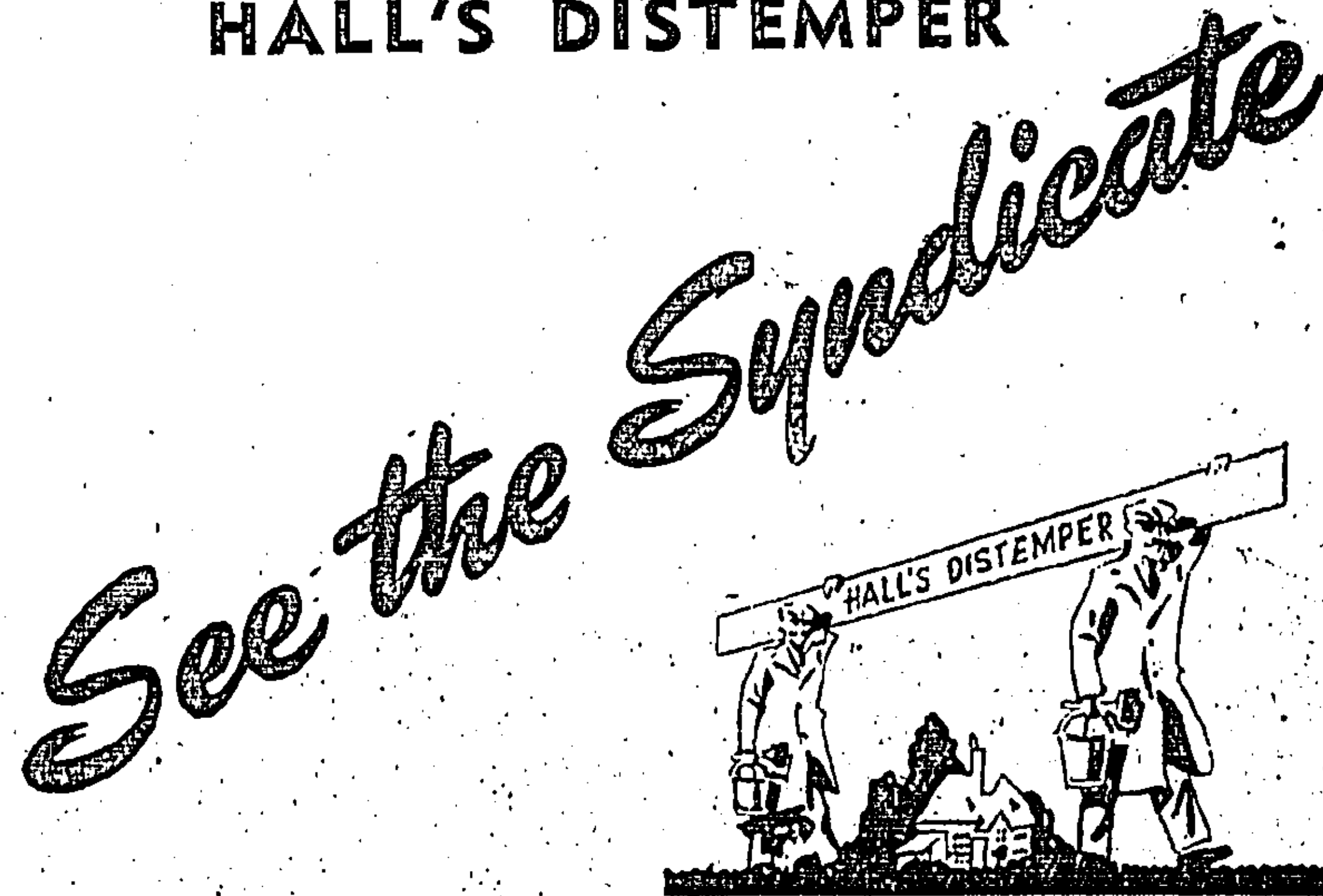
Reds Overdoing It

WHETHER Mao Tse-tung's demand that Chiang Kai-shek and other Nationalist leaders should be arrested and handed over to the Communists as war criminals is to be taken as a serious prerequisite for peace talks, or whether it is part of a propaganda war of nerves is not altogether clear at the moment. If it is seriously intended it immediately takes the prospects of peace negotiations out of the realm of reality, being both stupid and provocative. Chiang, and more so some of his immediate advisers and administrators may well be condemned as incompetents in the manner they have conducted the national affairs since the Liberation, and for this they deserve the same sort of punishment as would be given to others guilty of similar failure elsewhere in the world—their collapse from public life. But to describe them as war criminals in the sense that they originated the civil strife in China and must therefore be held wholly responsible for all the sufferings attendant on internecine conflict is beyond all reason. The millions of Chinese who have economically and socially suffered in consequence of Nanking's maladministration have no cause to feel grateful to Chiang and his KMT colleagues, but Mao Tse-tung would be making the biggest mistake of his career if he allowed himself to believe that these same people want to see their former leaders placed before Communist firing squads. And Mao has displayed a high degree of subtlety and skill in his handling of the Peiping situation which allowed the city to surrender without that face-losing word ever being mentioned in the peace terms, that it seems inconceivable he really intends to blench his diplomatic copy-book. For

the purposes of conducting peace negotiations which will be in keeping with his military successes and consolidate his political position Mao already holds all the high cards, with no need to overcall his hand. Li Tsung-jen has indicated that he is prepared to discuss peace terms on the basis of the Communists' original eight points, and fairly enough he expects certain concessions and compromise when the negotiating table is reached. But if Mao insists upon the surrender of Chiang and others for trial as war criminals he cannot be no hope of agreement on other points and the Communists will place themselves in the position probably of having to indulge in a costly military offensive to secure the Yangtze stronghold of Nanking. More important, they will forfeit whatever confidence they may have gained among the people in the eastern and southern areas as a result of their handling of affairs to date, and this, when it comes to the time for a Communist-controlled administration to be established, will be of graver consequence than any army which rebellious Nationalists might attempt to put in the field. Insistence on the war criminals clause in the original Communists' eight-point basis for peace cannot aid Mao Tse-tung in his quest to bring the whole of China under his influence. On the contrary it can only prolong an unnecessary struggle to the detriment of the whole country. If Mao is fearful of the move to establish a hostile regime in Canton, his most effective method of dissipating that danger is to withdraw his extravagant war criminals demand and set about immediately to effect a general peace settlement acceptable to the nation as a whole.

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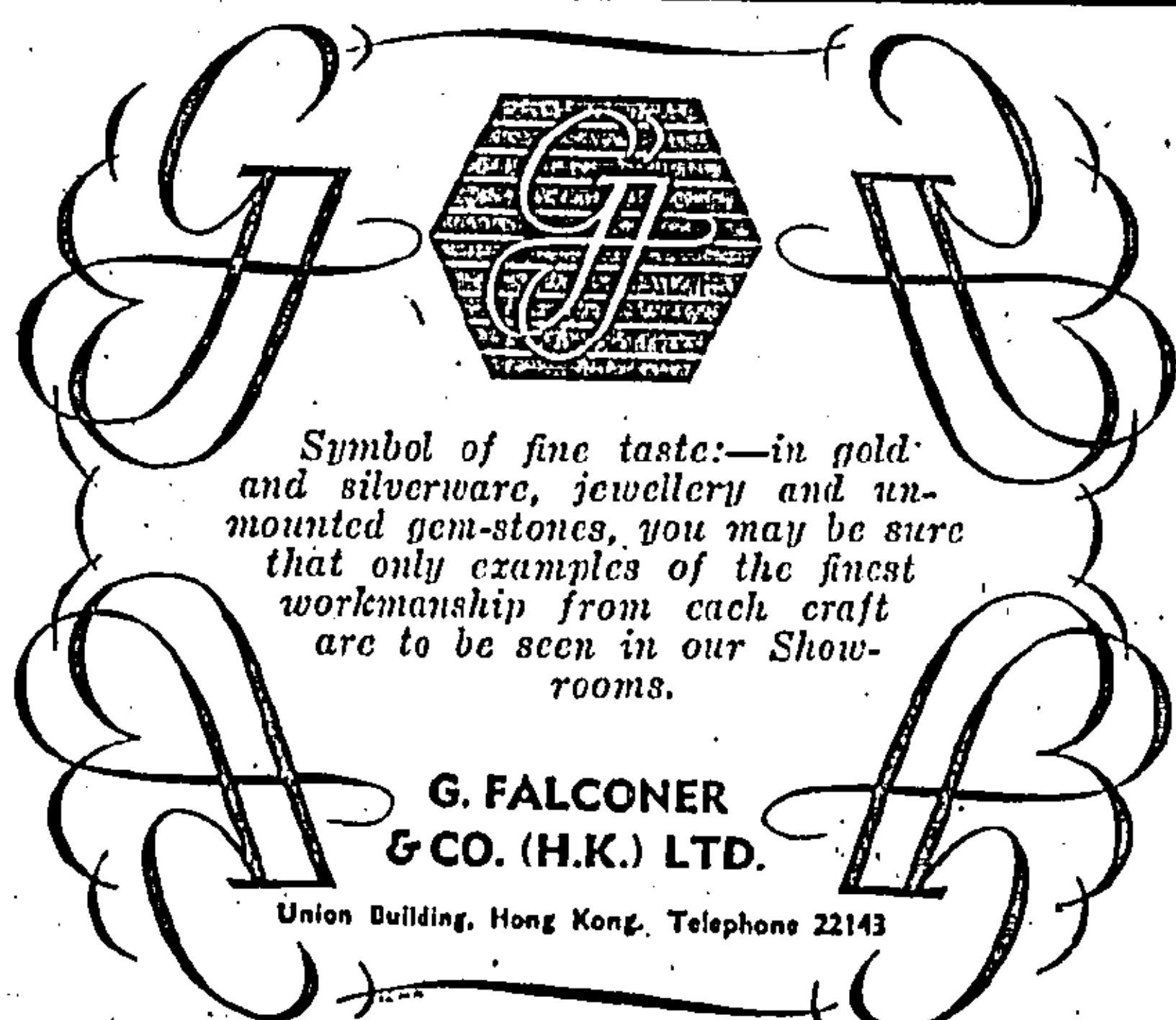
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A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a mechanical device, possibly a piece of electronic equipment or a component of a machine. The device is rectangular with various ports, buttons, and a small display or indicator area. It is shown from a slightly elevated, angled perspective.

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== WOMANSENSE ==

Let's Eat
BY
IDA BAILEY ALLEN

Trick Of The Chef
To wash the grit and sand from greens use luke warm water, and add a little vinegar to the final rinse.

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



ASHORE SAFELY—Safe and sound, these survivors of the Argentine tanker, El Captain, are happy to reach Norfolk, Virginia, aboard the Coast Guard cutter, Cherokee. The tanker broke in two off the Virginia coast, leaving 16 men on the front end and two more on the stern section. The entire crew was saved.



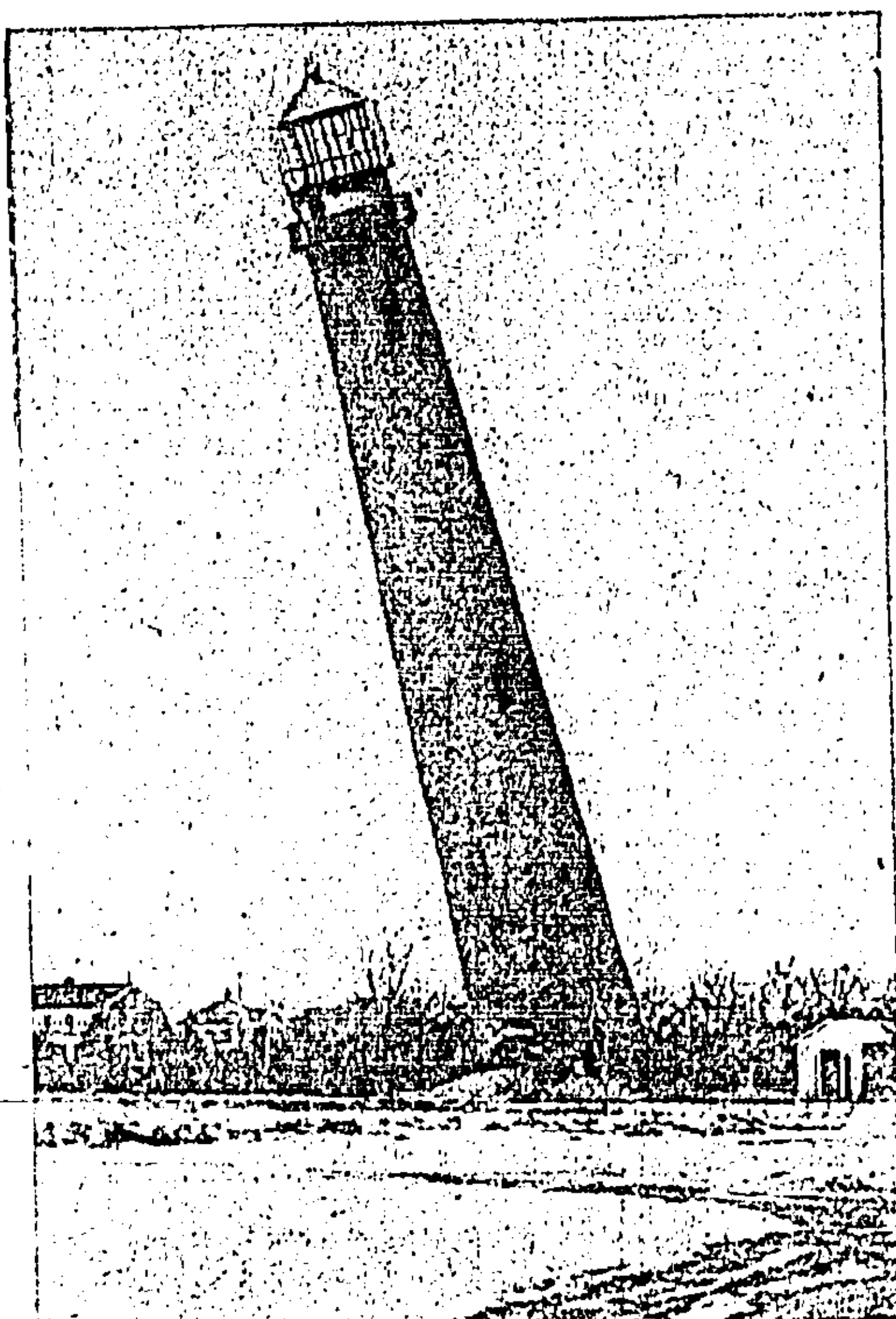
ITALIAN ART—Mario Vannini Parenti arrives in New York from Florence, Italy, holding a picture of the Donatello statue of San Lodovico. The 10-foot masterpiece and 120 Italian paintings will be displayed at the Wildenstein Gallery.



KOREAN DIPLOMAT RECEIVES DEGREE—Dr. John Myun Chang, left, Korean diplomat and distinguished Catholic layman, receives an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Brother B. Thomas, F.S.C., president of Manhattan College. Francis Cardinal Spellman, centre, a member of the Board of Trustees of the College, presided at the New York presentation.



HOLIDAY CHEER—Songwriter Irving Berlin, left, and comedian Bob Hope give actress Jinx Falkenburg a ride on an "Operation Vittles" coal chute in Berlin. The Americans spent a few weeks recently brightening things up for the German airlift personnel.



ON ITS WAY—The Shinnecock lighthouse in Hampton Bays, New York, comes tumbling down after being blown up by engineers. Built in 1857 and not used since 1931, the tower's foundation was ripped out and a torch applied.



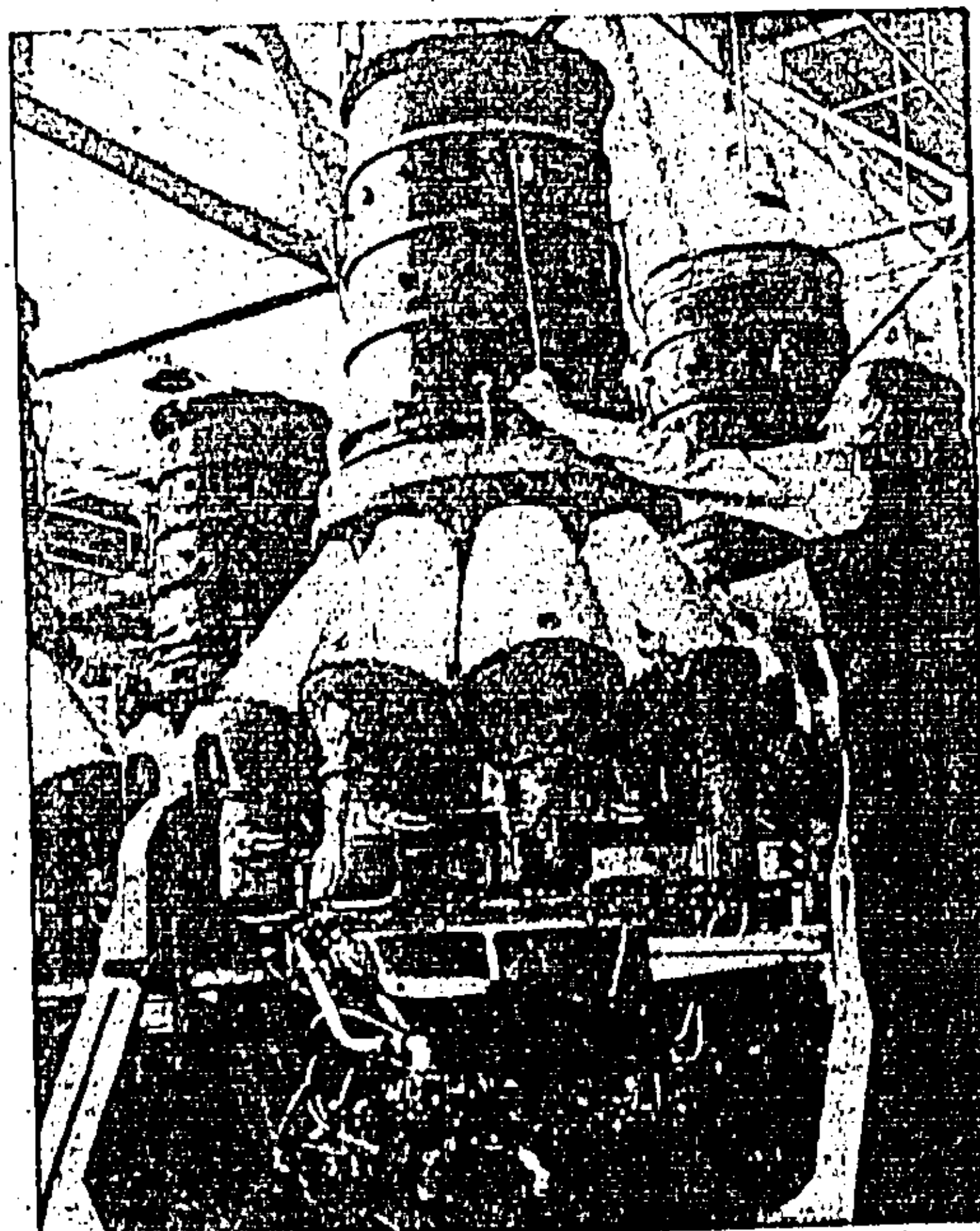
TELLS OF SOVIET HORROR—Gerhard Riefenstahl, 18, still wearing the rubberised suit issued to him during his forced labour in a uranium mine in the Erz Mountains, tells the story of his escape from Saxony to a Western Sector policeman in Berlin. The youth, who said he lost 35 pounds in two months, estimated that between 30,000 and 50,000 persons are working in the mines under squalid conditions.



WHAT WEATHER!—Empire State Building employee Louis Petely lays claim to the title of coldest man in New York. A guide on the observation tower of the 102-storey skyscraper, he spends many a moment hanging on to frost-bitten ears.



ON LOCATION AT EIFFEL TOWER—With the rooftops of Paris as a backdrop, and the Eiffel Tower as location, Charles Laughton (left) and Franchot Tono (right) act out a scene from "The Man on the Eiffel Tower," first post-war full-length American picture to be made in Paris.



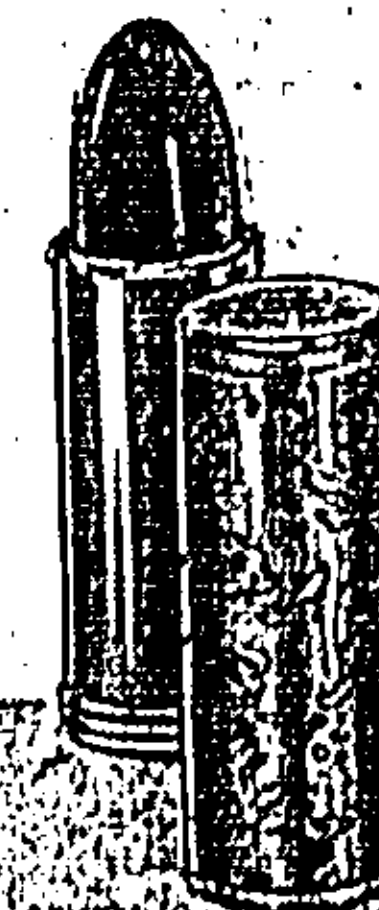
TURBO-JETS—A worker gives a final tune-up to Pratt and Whitney JT-6B Turbo-Wasps in an East Hartford, Connecticut, plant. With tail pipes pointed unconventionally upward, the jet engines of 5000 pounds thrust are equivalent to almost 9000 horsepower at today's aircraft speed.

JOAN BLONDELL,

glamorous star says, "Pink lipstick's the Hollywood craze and 'Pink Queen' is the perfect pink."



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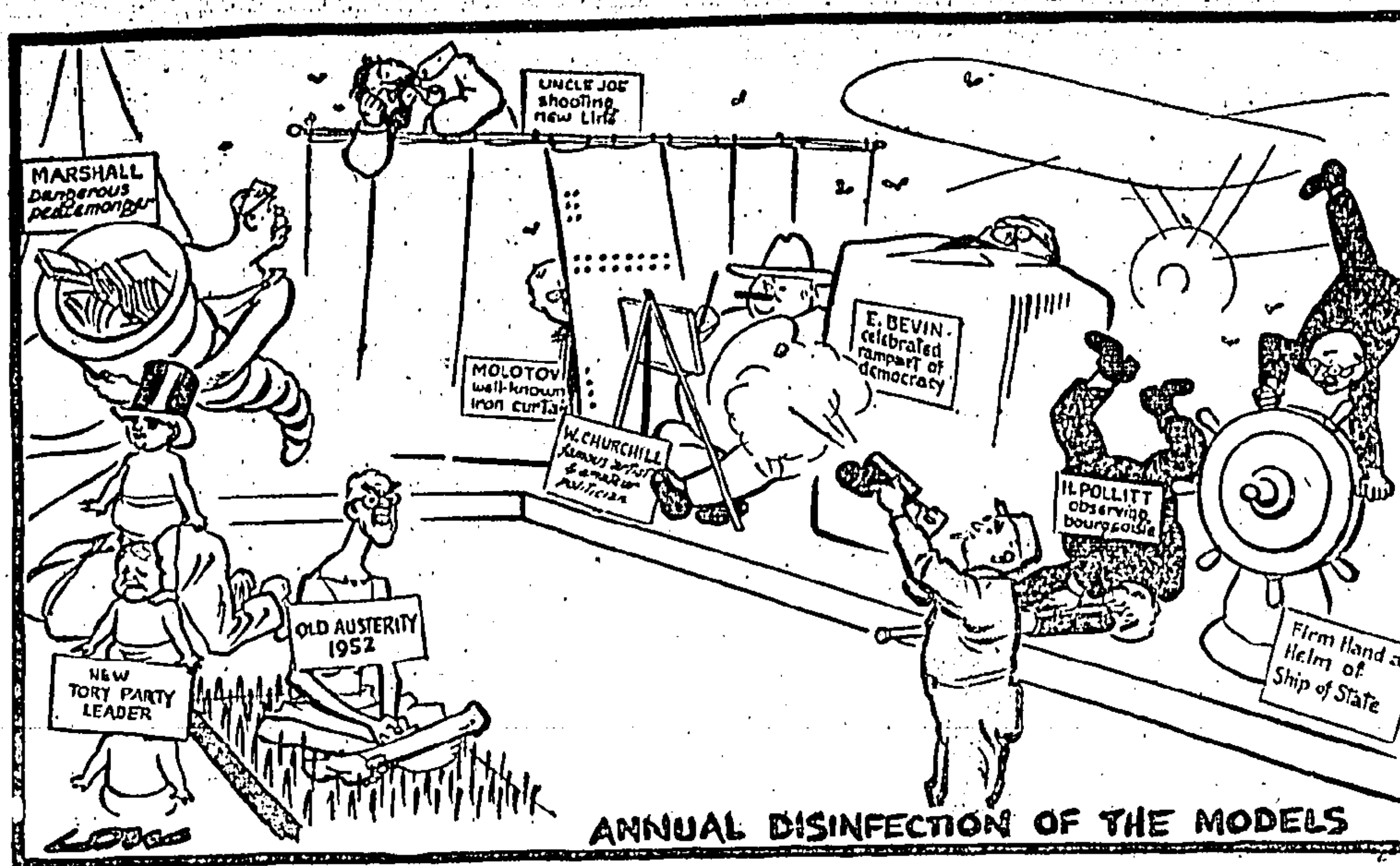
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NEXT CHANGE: "TEMPTATION"



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WHAT COMMUNISM DOES TO THE WORKER AND HIS UNION

—By S. Burton Heath—

IF some of the left-wing labour unionists could study what is going on since the Reds took over Hungary, they would kick their own Communists out fast. That is one conclusion of Paul Ruedemann and George A. Bannantine, who have seen with their own eyes what Communism does to the worker and his union.

He must attend every meeting, every parade. A check list is kept on attendance. In our central office there were three meetings a week, addressed by high-powered party propagandists.

"To illustrate how they work, there was the meeting at which the company was criticised for giving too much to its workers by way of social welfare, such as in cases of birth, sickness, death, and similar emergencies. 'American extravagance,' the speakers called it.

Ruedemann, is president of MAORT, the Standard Oil Company (New Jersey) affiliate recently seized by Hungary. Bannantine is a director and production expert. They were among the first businessmen to return to Budapest after the liberation in 1945, and stayed until they were forced to sign "confessions" that they had sabotaged the country's oil production, and released subse-

"Does anybody have anything to say about petitioning the company to reduce its contributions?" the men were asked.

"Not one voice was raised against the motion. It carried unanimously. That is how Communist democracy functions at labour union level."

"One sabotage charge against us," said Bannantine, "was that we spent too much money on workers' housing. We built a lot of neat, modern homes for our men. The Reds said they were too good for workers. The money could better have been used in other ways.

FOUR CATEGORIES

These extorted "confessions" were used as an excuse for seizing and nationalising MAORT, which controls and produces about 80 percent of all the oil known to exist in Hungary, enough to supply all the country's domestic requirements, with some left for export.

Red propaganda is using the "confessions" in an attempt to show that MAORT was holding back on production, under orders from the home office, as part of American preparation for a war against the Soviet Union.

"As long as an industry was operated by private owners," said Ruedemann, "the union had no voice. Management couldn't even hire and fire without its approval. But the moment that industry was nationalised, the union became merely a storage for the government, through which orders were issued and workers terrorised.

TOTALITARIAN BALLOT

"Communists like to have everything 'voluntary.' So the workers are urged, almost required, to 'debate.' But the debate is like a totalitarian ballot. It has a place only for 'yes.' A foolish worker who says 'no,' or even questions, can expect to lose his job and, when he tries to get another, find himself blacklisted from all employment.

"This goes beyond matters of party policy. It is almost a total thing. One worker, for example, ventured to criticise a party functionary for using the company car to chase around the night club and red light districts. He was fired, and blacklisted. The functionary wasn't even reproved.

"Nor can a worker get by passively. He has to work at his Com-

The government, Ruedemann said, has grouped all Hungarian industries into four categories, A, B, C and D, according to production volume and number of employees. MAORT is in Group A.

"Like every industry in Group A, the top group, MAORT is entitled to one top man who can be paid 3,500 florins a month. At the artificial exchange rate that is US\$200 a month, but in buying power it is about \$100.

"The schedule tells how many men, in each category, should be paid each wage rate. There's no collective bargaining. The union has no more to say about it than management does.

"When we were there we had a 44-hour week with time and a half for overtime and double time for Saturday, Sunday and holiday overtime. Now, under nationalisation, the men work a 48-hour week before overtime begins. We have had no word about what is done after the 48 hours have been worked."

"Because food had been so scarce," said Bannantine, "we formerly had trucks scouring the farming areas, exchanging kerosene and gasoline for food for our company stores. The government now has abolished the company stores."



Paul Ruedemann (left) and George A. Bannantine: The union became merely a storage for the government.



MAORT was the second important foreign-owned industry seized by the Red government. The first was a Ford assembly plant. All Hungarian-owned industries employing as many as 100 persons were nationalised last Easter. In addition, the government seized all property of the owners—their homes, cars, bank accounts, on the ground that they had been paid for with profits from the businesses.

"There were reports that all businesses employing 20 or more were to be nationalised," said Bannantine, "but that had not happened when we left."

"When an industry is nationalised, sometimes workers are promoted to management, but that never lasts long. Soon they are replaced by party favourites."

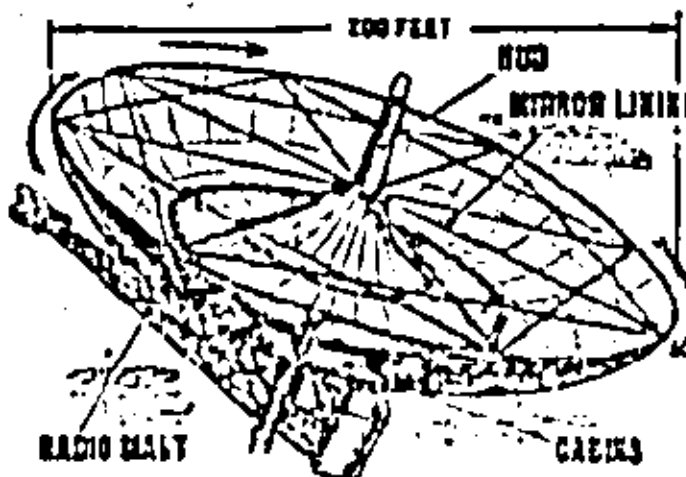
A man named Szego, formerly with a Russian-sponsored export-import company, was made deputy general manager of our big oil company. The manager's name is Szekely, and he was the Hungarian equivalent of a certified public accountant.

"Forgoes, an ex-salesman, not of oil, was made head of the technical department in charge of geological, geophysical, engineering and production work. Benda, salesman for a chain of stores selling hosiery, sweaters, etc., was made head of purchases, sales and accounting."

"That's typical of the background of men chosen to operate nationalised industries."

SKY-SNOOP ON ATOM MEN?

By Chapman Pincher



PLANS for a real flying saucer, an inhabited space-station which could control the world's atomic energy, have been completed by British rocket technicians.

The chief designer, Mr. H.E. Ross, of High Wycombe, Bucks, described it to the Interplanetary Society in London recently.

THEORY

If a rocket could be given a speed of about 6,500 miles an hour at a height of 22,000 miles, gravitation would be balanced. The rocket—and any man or thing leaving it—would therefore circle the earth, which is the halfway course between flying off at a tangent and falling.

And at this height the rocket would move round the earth at the same rate as the earth rotates.

So people in the rocket would see the earth as stationary. And three such space-stations could watch every country. Large-scale explosions would be reported.

TECHNIQUE

The saucer would be 200 ft. wide and weigh 2,000 tons. It would be prefabricated and taken up piece-meal by piloted freight rockets.

Mr. Ross believes that 60 journeys would do the job. Each load would be dumped into space—to be picked up later.

"The bits would not fall, but would circle the earth, passing over exactly the same spot at precise intervals," says Mr. Ross. "So, although we might lose an odd bolt, we should be able to pick up all the main parts—especially with radar to help us."

Engineers, wearing rigid space suits supplied with oxygen would put together the dumped pieces.

They could step into space without falling and jet-propel themselves about by squirting gas from cylinders strapped on their backs.

One man could lift the heaviest girder because it would be weightless. Hammers and screw-drivers could be put down on nothing, and would not drop. They would follow the man at the same speed of 6,500 m.p.h.

Power from the sun's rays would be needed to spin the saucer round its hub and produce an artificial gravity. For without it the men in the station would float in the chemically-made air.

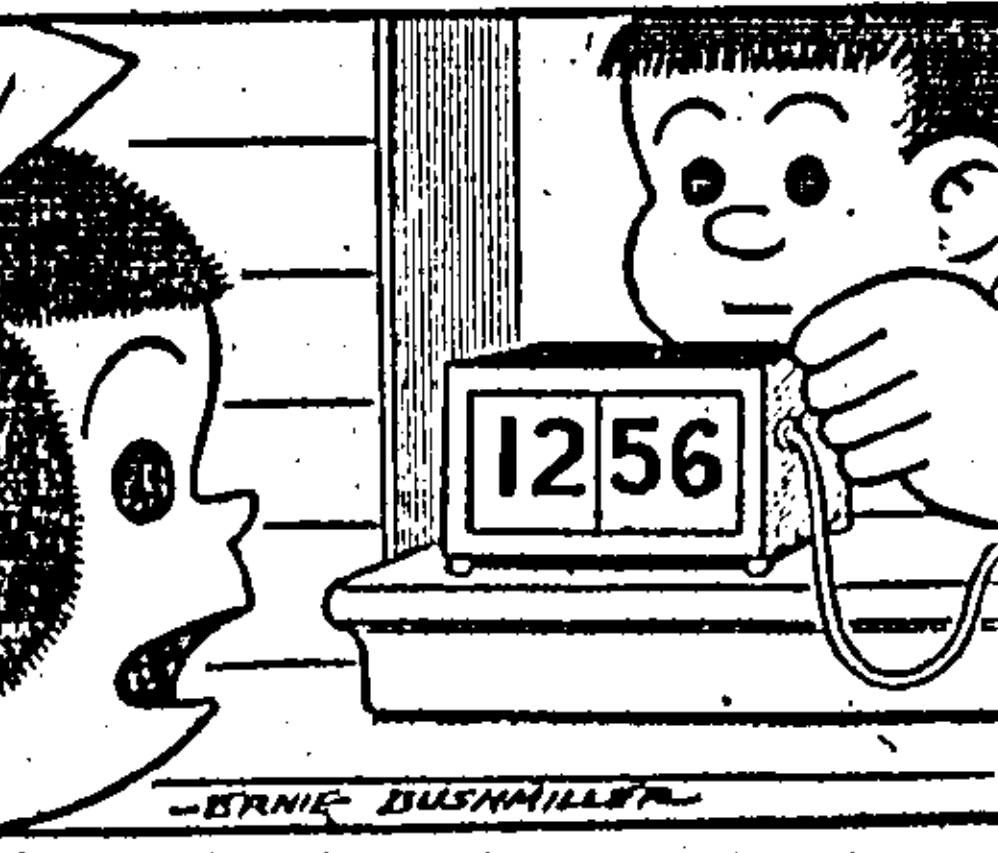
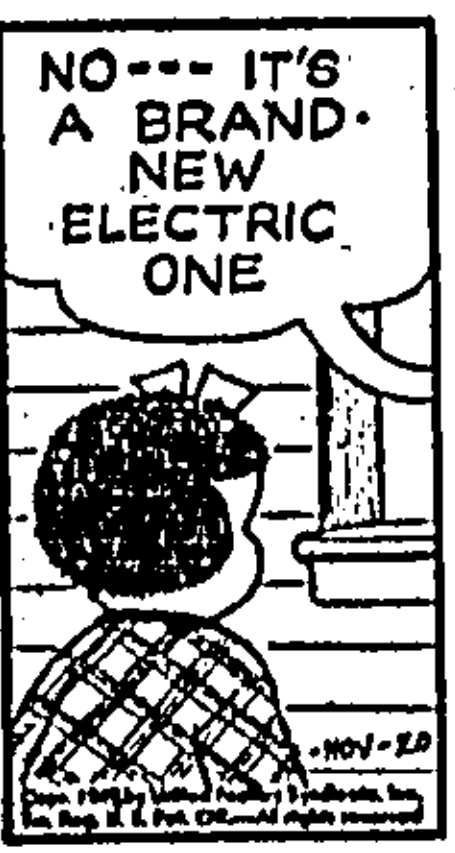
A huge radio-mast underneath would be the anchorage for "liberty rockets" which would ferry the crews for "earth leave". Other everyday purposes of the station would be to provide accurate weather forecasts and to give a world-wide re-diffusion television service.

Mr. Ross says: "The project would cost about £130 million."

NOTE: A rocket to be launched shortly in America is expected to reach a record 235 miles.

NANCY Right to the Minute

By Ernie Bushmiller



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Royall Reported To Have Asked For Change In Germany

Washington, Jan. 30.—The Army Secretary, Mr. Kenneth Royall, who is on his way to Japan, was tonight reported to have asked President Truman to turn over to the State Department the job of administering occupied Germany, but Government officials said they had no knowledge of such a request.

Mr. Royall was said to have made the request in a letter to the White House shortly after his return from Germany on January 3. He reportedly sent a copy to the State Department for its information.

Search For Missing Superfort

London, Jan. 30.—Three United States Superfortresses left Waddington, Lincolnshire, and Marham, Norfolk, today to continue the search for the B-29 Superfortress with 15 men on board which was reported missing on a flight from Dakar, West Africa, to Britain on Thursday night.

American aircraft from all parts of Europe and Africa have been mobilized to look for the missing plane and the Royal Air Force is also co-operating in the search.

The American Air Force headquarters in London announced today that flares had been sighted near the area where the missing Superfortress had sent out its last message.

Ships have left Port Lyautey, French Morocco, to search for the plane. The statement said the flares were sighted 50 miles north of Lae, Palau, in the Caroline Islands. "With the prevailing sea current being south-east, the possibility of this being the drift position of the survivors is very encouraging."

A constant radio signal, which it was thought might have come from the survivors, was picked up on Friday by wireless stations at La Palman and Rio de Oro, West Africa.—Reuter.

Separate Peace Report

(Continued from Page 1)

Li's chief emissary in Nanking is known as "Wang Yi-tung" and his chief emissary in Shanghai is reported to be General Chen Ming-shu, former Governor of Kwangtung province. Both were reported to be working behind a tight curtain of secrecy in their efforts to get Nanking and Shanghai to follow the Peking example and sue for a local peace settlement.

A spokesman for Aetling, President Li Tsung-jen said he knew nothing about the two dissident Kuomintang members and he had no contact with them.

Earlier, a source close to the Aetling President said that "encouraging results" from Peking in conversations with his envoy, Huang Chi-han, caused him to be "unshaken" in his effort to reach a peace settlement, despite the bitter Communist broadcasts. Some Nationalist leaders, however, said peace prospects founded on the hardened Communist demands that Chiang be ousted as a "war criminal."

Meanwhile, Nanking's City Councilors continued their efforts for a local peace "if the worse comes to the worst." They met twice today and were reported to be ready to ask President Li for permission to send a civic delegation across the Yangtze into Communist lines to sue for peace.—United Press.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"I hope supper will be ready, because cookies and apples are making me awfully hungry!"



HOTEL FOR PILGRIMS—The building (foreground) being constructed near St. Peter's (background) in Rome will house pilgrims who will visit the city during Holy Year of 1950. Offices of Catholic Action groups will be in the building.

Bubble Gum New Fad In Canton

Canton, Jan. 30.—Canton's enterprising street merchants have discovered a new gold mine.

In less than a month, they have hawked bubble gum, hitherto a little-known commodity here, into a major fad, enjoyed by everyone from dirty-faced street children to well-dressed adults patronizing the better tea-house and cabarets.

The street hawkers say that they bring the gum in from Hongkong themselves. It sells for GY\$10 for four pieces.

Last week, major government and military changes both here and in Nanking, Canton's popular daily Chien Kwo used its main editorial for an attack on the new fad.

The paper estimated that more than 20 percent of the city's population wasted US\$4,000 on bubble gum every day. At the same time, it attacked the chewing habit because it was a menace to health.—United Press.

STALIN'S OFFER TO TRUMAN

(Continued from Page 1)

While Washington digested this latest pronouncement from the Kremlin, the only positive thing American officials were saying was that Generalissimo Stalin's statement was regarded as important and deserved and would receive the closest study.—Reuter.

SIGNIFICANT SIGN

London, Jan. 30.—London observers consider it significant that, for the first time, a member of the Soviet Government has mentioned the possibility of lifting the Berlin blockade without imposing any conditions about the circulation of the Soviet mark in Western Berlin.

It was generally believed in London that the Western powers would have no objection to lifting the blockade without restrictions on Berlin—demanded by Generalissimo Stalin—simultaneously with the lifting of the ports imposed by the Soviet Government.

The view has been held in well-informed quarters in London for some weeks that the Soviet authorities would shortly make a fresh attempt to solve the Berlin crisis and arrest the Western development of the British, French and United States occupation zones of Germany.

PRACTICAL MOVE

Observers also felt that the statement by the Soviet Premier constituted an important practical move, not merely a rhetorical appeal to world opinion.

In Paris, the news was greeted with solicitation tonight. Details of the reported statement reached Paris too late for the Sunday afternoon papers and Frenchmen heard the announcement in the 7.00 p.m. GMT news bulletin.

In political circles, the first news of the statement was regarded with optimism as tending to reduce the tension in the present international situation.—Reuter.

"SOFT" MESSAGE

London, Jan. 30.—Some British quarters today expressed more interest over the timing of Marshal Josef Stalin's statement than over their contents.

They regarded Stalin's answers as a "soft" message to the United States. But it came within 24 hours after a tough Moscow denunciation of Western demands and a note to Norway that caused some concern.

One British authority said this added up to a policy of "intimidating the weak and coaxing the strong." Britons felt that Stalin's answers did not directly concern Britain except for the statement on the Berlin blockade. They saw little prospect that the answer on this point would lead to settlement of the blockade.—United Press.

CNAC Plane's Landing On Red Airfield

Shanghai, Jan. 31.—The China National Aviation Corporation here confirmed last night that one of its planes, with 19 persons on board, had landed in Communist territory, according to the North China Daily News.

It was earlier reported that a CNAC plane had been "kidnapped" in mid-air and forced to fly into Communist territory. The CNAC Operations Control said last night that the plane, a DC-3 No. P 135, took off from Shanghai with a crew of three and 16 passengers.

The pilot was an American but his name was not known.

The plane was on a routine scheduled flight to Tsingtao. No reports were received and when the plane was overdue search aircraft were sent out to crisscross the area.

One of the search planes eventually found that the CNAC plane had landed at Tsinan (capital of Shantung province) airfield.

The searchers were not able to determine whether it had made a forced landing because of mechanical trouble, but reported that it appeared to have alighted safely and without damage.

Tsinan lies almost due west of Tsingtao, about 280 miles away. This was thought to tend to confirm the story of a "hold-up" in mid-air. Aviation circles thought it most unlikely that the pilot would have flown the plane into Communist territory voluntarily. If he had had engine trouble they said, he would have either flown straight on or turned round and come back.—Reuter.

Pope's Plea For Better Family Life

Vatican City, Jan. 30.—Pope Pius XII said today that the consolidation of the Christian family was one of the most urgent needs of our times.

Speaking through the Vatican Radio to the Bolivian Eucharistic Congress, the Pope said: "There are few needs" as urgent as the consolidation of the Christian family, the keystone which supports human society, which is the dome crowning the whole building of creation.

The Pope said that "unity, indissolubility, and even the transcendence" of the Christian family are today in danger.—Associated Press.

FIGHTING IN BASSEIN

Rangoon, Jan. 30.—Burmese Government troops were today fighting Karen insurgents in the town of Bassein, 115 kilometres west of Rangoon, as the Burmese Premier, Thakin Nu, prepared to meet Karen leaders in an attempt to end the countrywide insurrection.

Announcements here earlier claimed that Bassein had been recaptured by Government troops last night, but today's communique reported street fighting in the port, which is the second largest in the Irrawaddy Delta.

Government reinforcements reported that parts of the town were in flames.

Karen leaders meeting the Premier were led by Saw Ba U Kyi, President of the Karen National Pro-Government sources said they were demanding, among other things, Government recognition of a separate Karen State and the formation of a Coalition Government to work for internal peace and ensure free and fair elections.—Reuter.

Taft-Hartley Repeal Bill Hearings

Washington, Jan. 30.—President Truman's Taft-Hartley Act repeal bill starts on its rocky road through Congress tomorrow with industry, labour and even some administration officials prepared to fight some of its provisions.

The bill, which keeps closely to the pledge Mr. Truman laid down in his election campaign, calls on Congress to throw out the Republican-sponsored labour law and replace the old Wagner Act with added provisions to give it "teeth." It omits practically all the Taft-Hartley provisions which the Chamber of Commerce of the United States said should be retained.

These include the ban on closed shop and restrictions on Union shop, non-Communist affidavits from Union officers and the right to use unions for breach of contract. However, the measure overrides the objections of labour by asking for injunctive powers to seek injunctive strikes and boycotts. It would also apparently leave intact the Government's power to seek injunctions in national emergency strikes.

Aides to the Federal Mediation Director, Mr. Cyrus Ching, said he would resign if his service was returned to the Labour Department as the Truman bill recommends.

The hearings start tomorrow when the Senate Labour Committee opens brief hearings on the repeal bill. The chairman, Senator Elbert Thomas, said they would definitely finish on February 10 despite the clamour for more time by the Republicans, who are accusing administration leaders of trying to "choke off" public debate.—United Press.

TWO ROBBERIES IN YAUMATI

Two robberies were carried out in the Yaumati district during the weekend.

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, three men broke into No. 958 Canton Road, bound and gagged the inmates and got away with \$800 in cash and clothing.

In the early hours of Saturday morning, Wong Wai-chong, of Wah On Lane, was walking in the street at the intersection of Hamilton and Shanghai streets when two men held him up and relieved him of \$2,000.

No arrests have yet been made.

Radio Hongkong

1 p.m. Favourite Waltz Medleys 1.15. News, Weather Report and Announcements 1.25. Theatre Memories played by the London Palladium Orchestra 2. New Light Symphony Orchestra and Patricia Robertson (Piano) 2.30. It's in the Air Variety Request Programme presented by Susan Howard (Studio) 3. "The Mikado" Comic Opera by Gilbert and Sullivan. Recorded under the personal supervision of Rupert D'Oyly Carte with a cast from the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company 4.25. Mantovani and His Orchestra 5. Children's Half Hour (Studio) 6.20. Commonwealth Variety Medley by Artists from the British Commonwealth of Nations (BBC's) 6.30. Portuguese Half Hour (Studio) 7. World News and News Analysis and "The Adventures of Chomondoley" (BBC's) 7.30. Hospital by Jonathan Svy (Studio) 7.50. Hospital by Jonathan Svy (Studio) 8. "The Editor" (London Relay) 8.10. English Madrigals sung by the Cambridge University Madrigal Society 8.30. "We Like What We Like" presented by "Mr and Mrs See Too" (Studio) 9. Yvonne Printemps Entertains with Excerpts from "The Waltz" 9.15. Piano Recital by Walter Gieseking 9.30. London Playhouse "The Idiot of Paris" with Michael Rennie and Joan Collins from Film 10. Radio News Reel (London Relay) 10.15. Weather Report (BBC's) 10.40. Cabaret and Dance Music 11.30. Weather Report and Close Down.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY at 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
It's M-G-M's Tune-swap, Hula-happy TECHNICOLOR Musical!

Enter **WILLIAMS** and what a body!
LAWFORD
DURANTE
CUGAT AND HIS ORCHESTRA
MONTALBAN
CHARISSE
TECHNICOLOR!

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PLEASE BOOK YOUR SEATS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT. PRICES AS USUAL!

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THE MOST UP-TO-DATE THEATRE ON THE MAINLAND.

SHOWING TO-DAY

At 12.00 NOON, 2.30 P.M., 5.15 P.M., 7.15 P.M., & 9.15 P.M.

STAMPING MAD

AN INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

ANNE ZIEGLER, WEBSTER BOOTH, FELIX AYLER, FRANCIS L. SUDAN, PETER GRAVES

NEXT CHANGE

THE ONE AND ONLY SUPERMAN

A COLUMBIA PICTURE.

SHOWING TO-DAY **Cathay** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

SOMETHING for the BOYS

Shapes Up MARVELOUSLY!

MIRANDA O'SHEA-BLAINE

TECHNICOLOR

International Series
Round: Portugal v.
3.30 a.m.; Pakistan v.
6 p.m. at CBA Ground.
to Ground: Vikings v.
a.m.; Rexes v. Rangers.
Australian 100 yards record when he
won the final of the event in the
Victorian championships in 8.5
seconds.
He defeated the Australian John
Bartman and Morris Curotta by a
yard and two yards respectively.—
Reuter.

Billiard stroke is not anything less.
The cushion is a useful little
thing. played cushion first with
at hand side. Far better than a
low-through shot, which often
is to a tangle.

London Express Service

and forwards, both in the
and outside.
Australia had their opportunities
the first half when getting the
from many scrums, but they
the penetrative skill near the
a line.—Router.

He defeated the Australian John
Bartram and Morris Curotta by a
yard and two yards respectively.—

He defeated the Australian John Hartman and Morris Curotta by a yard and two yards respectively.

FOR YOUR SPARE MOMENTS

FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

LESSON HAND
McKENNEY ON BRIDGEDefence Is Possible
For Smother Play

Lesson Hand—Both vul.

South	West	North	East
♠ 2	♠ 4	♠ 10	♠ 11
♥ 3	♥ 5	♥ 6	♥ 7
♦ 4	♦ 5	♦ 6	♦ 7
♣ 4	♣ 5	♣ 6	♣ 7

Opening—♠ K

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

THIS is the fourth of the five articles on the fascinating but difficult smother play.

I have selected today's smother play for our lesson hand because it is one of the few smother plays against which you can create a defence. It differs from the rest of the plays in this series and some players might refer to it as a forced coup; nevertheless, it comes under the smother classification.

West cashes the king of diamonds and declarer ruffs the second diamond with the nine of spades. The jack of clubs is led and East correctly refuses to win it, to avoid creating two entries into dummy. Declarer continues with another club, East wins this and leads a diamond, forcing South to ruff with the ten of spades.

Now declarer enters dummy and leads a trump, finessing the jack. He cashes the ace and king of hearts and leads a small heart, throwing West in the lead.

The three remaining cards in each hand are underlined. West has nothing to lead but a diamond or a club. North and East each have three trumps, while declarer has the ace-queen of trumps and the eight of hearts. If West returns a diamond, it is trumped in dummy. If East under-trumps, another trump will be led from dummy and the queen finessed. If East trumps with the king, South will win with the ace, cash the queen of trumps, and the last trick will be won in dummy.

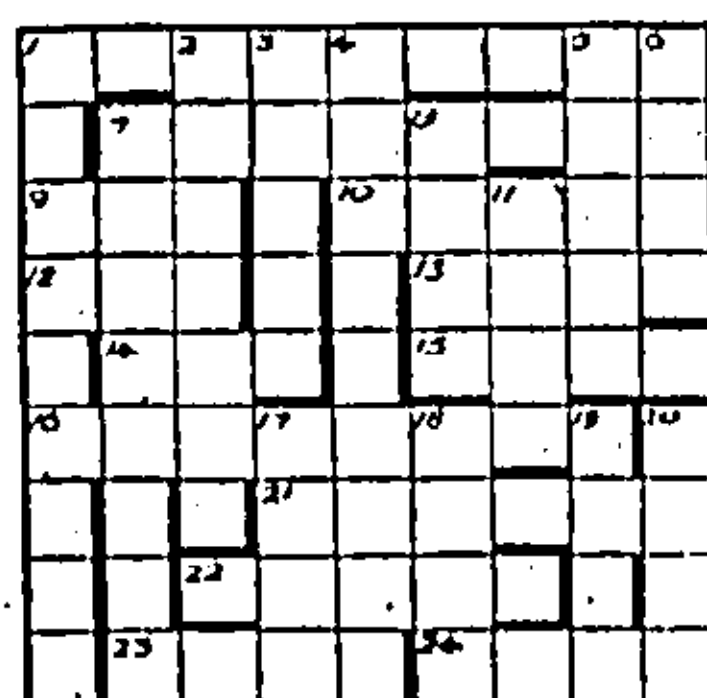
Here is the defence against this particular play. The play goes the same up to the point where East wins the trick with the ace of clubs. Now, instead of returning a diamond to shorten the declarer, if East returns a heart, declarer will have to win the trick with the king. He can win the trick with the queen of clubs, but he can take only one finesse. When he finesesses the ten of spades, he can cash his other high heart and throw West in the lead, but now West will have a diamond exit and thus defeat the smother play.

Check Your Knowledge

1. A Philippiian would be an inhabitant of what place?
2. Locate the Sulu Sea.
3. What is the literal meaning of vernieuw?
4. Who is referred to as the "Treasurer of the American Revolution"?
5. Why is the lyre bird so called?
6. Who has just succeeded Mr. T. V. Soong as Governor of Kwangtung?

(Answers in Column 3)

CROSSWORD



- Across
- 1 and 6. Sounds like a weed cast upon the waters, actually used in ship repairing. (6, 4)
 7. Battle station. (8)
 8. Reindeer. (3)
 9. Droll synonym. (5)
 10. Could be a sandy rim for a star. (3)
 11. Prisoner is found thus in the Bible. (4)
 12. You will find it in the Central Republic. (6)
 13. Accusation. (5)
 14. See 7 Down.
 15. This sword has no cutting edge. (4)
- Down
1. Sticky job for a pilot on a down-pour run? (4-0)
 2. It helps to make a report, but only a horse would include in it. (4)
 3. Repetition timer. (5)
 4. Method of performance. (4)
 5. On the way out. (5)
 6. See 1 Across.
 7. and 25. The position of a ship to the windward of another. (7-4)
 8. A letter from opera leaves it upset. (4)
 9. Roundabout. (4)
 10. See 11 Across.
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DEMOBILISATION OF CHINESE ARMIES A TOUGH PROBLEM

By WILLIAM PARROTT

Hankow, Jan. 30.—The problem of returning millions of Chinese soldiers to their native provinces stands out as a task for urgent attention if and when the course of current events brings an end to the civil war.

If this huge task is not tackled immediately fighting ceases, observers believe China will be riddled with crime and violence by soldiers, particularly of the Nationalist armies, who may be left to fend for themselves far from their homes and without control or money.

Whether the Communists, their apparently superior military organisation, could effectively cope with the problem is seriously questioned.

That the Communists acknowledge the problem, at least in part, is apparent from one of their broadcast peace terms in which they demand the reorganisation of all anti-revolutionary armies on a democratic basis.

Whatever this may mean in other ways, it is considered it could at least enable a transfer of control and disciplinary authority—such as these exist in the Nationalist armies.

Chinese statistics are vague and probably no authority knows how many troops there are in the country.

The number of men in uniform, if not actually under arms, may range anywhere between 3,000,000 and 6,000,000.

How many are left on the Nationalist side is similarly only conjectural but there are certainly many hundreds of thousands.

These troops, observers say, have always been poorly disciplined, and because of their bad behaviour are hated by the civil population.

MEN SCATTERED

What the feeling is between soldier and civilian in Communist areas is not clear, but the troops would no doubt present the same problem if controls were relaxed.

The civil war has scattered Chinese troops all over the country, hundreds of miles from their homes. There are, for instance, probably over 100,000 soldiers from the southern province of Kwangsi in the Nationalist Central China armies.

There are men from Szechuan in the Nationalist armies defending Nanking.

Thousands of southerners are stranded in North China. The Communists have brought huge forces from Manchuria and North China down to the Yangtze Valley.

Their armies also contain many men from southern provinces. Civilians, on their part, would do little to assist the soldiers back to their homes except to get them out of the immediate locality.

The civilian attitude to the military is primarily based on their hatred of the civil war and the austerity it has brought.

But it is considered that the military—certainly the Nationalist if not the Communists—have earned opprobrium in their own right for they have treated the civil population shockingly.

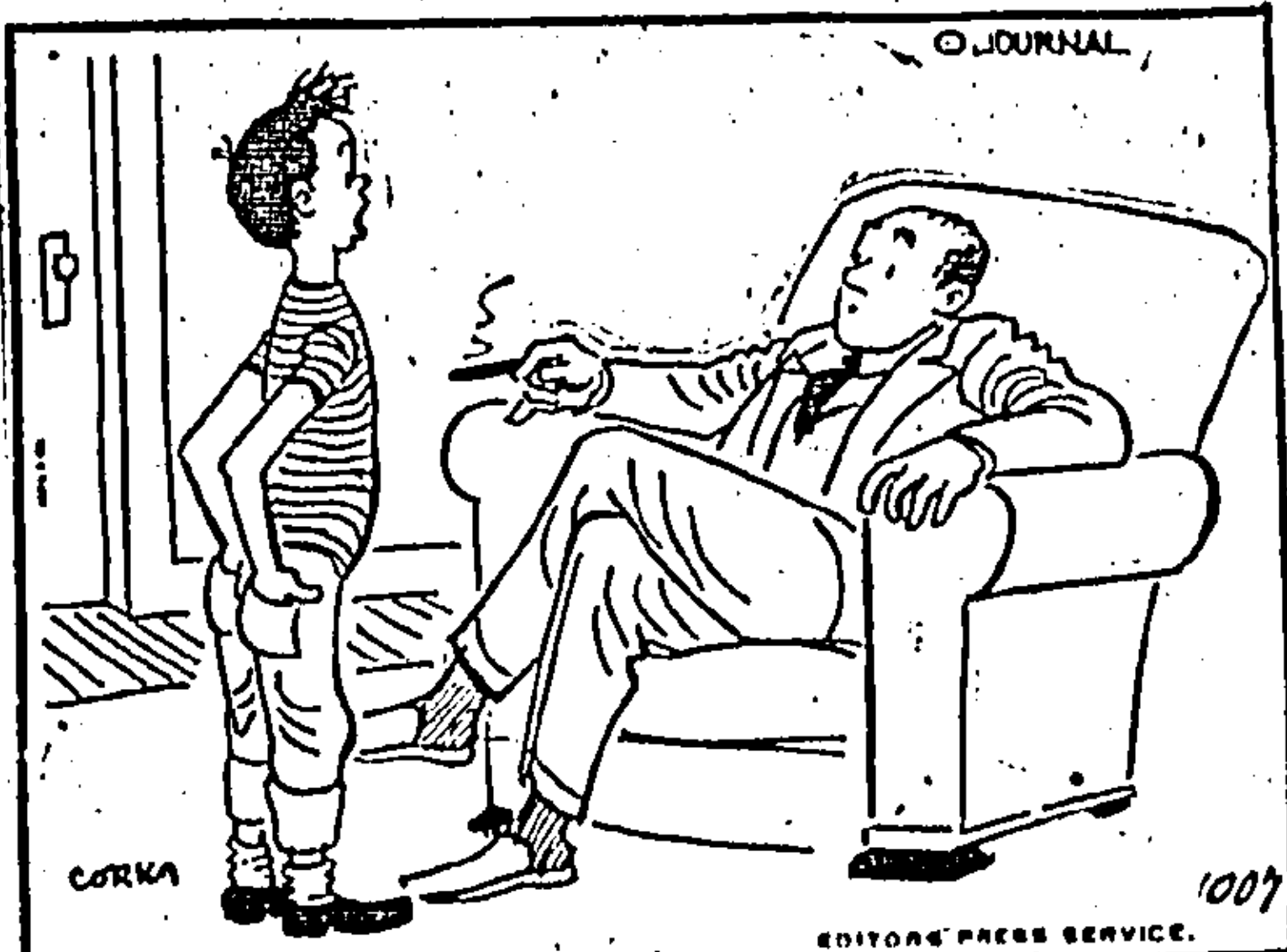
Urges Peace With Soviet

Wigan, Lancashire, Jan. 30.—Mr. Konni Zilliacus, Labour Member of Parliament, tonight urged Britain to approach the Soviet Union for a settlement, under the United Nations, of the Middle East and Far East problems jointly with interested countries like the United States.

He told a Wigan Labour meeting that Mr. Winston Churchill wished to lead the world to a "bigger and bloodier war of intervention against the European, Russian and Chinese revolutions."

As long as Labour ruled, Britain would never be committed to such "supreme folly and abomination," he declared.

The British Government's failure in Palestine was a symptom of a world-wide break-up of Anglo-American policy, he said.—Reuter.



"I know about women. What I want you to tell me is how to shave."

1,500 Feet Waterspout



A waterspout, which the weather bureau said was caused by unstable air conditions, moves across Santa Monica (Calif.) bay during a storm. Watchers estimated its height at 1,500 feet and said it remained visible for 20 minutes.—AP Picture.

GREEK REPLY TO REBELS CRITICISED

Athens, Jan. 30.—Radio Athens' reply to guerilla General Markos Vafiades' peace proposals appeared today to be degenerating into a squabble over the broadcast's interpretation and intention.

The Friday night broadcast by the Government-controlled radio made three points in replying to Markos.

To his demand for a general election, the radio said: "No one has any objection to this."

To his request for a cease-fire, the radio said: "It is enough for the bandits to lay down their arms."

It answered his stipulation that the British and Americans leave Greece with the statement: "The sovereign people could solve this question in elections."

The Press Ministry, which prepared the broadcast statement and issued it to the press, said today that any reports that the statement represented the Government's reply to Markos were "misinterpretations."

PRESS CRITICAL

The Greek press has been sharply critical of the statement and the way it was issued, and the Populist Party organ described it as a "unilateral attempt to undermine Greece" and demanded that those responsible for the report be revealed.

The Conservative newspaper, Kathimeris, said the report was not presented in good faith and that Greece had never intended to discuss the guerilla proposals.

The Liberal paper Vima, said the new Markos proposal was similar to previous ones and therefore there could be no question of following it up in any way.—United Press.

Ships Collide In Fog

Manila, Jan. 31. Globe Wireless reported it heard a distress signal at 5.50 a.m. Manila time today (Monday) from the steamer SS Hsiang Hsing saying it had collided with the steamer Masbate 10 miles off Tungyin in foggy weather.—Associated Press.

CHURCH NOTICE

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Sunday 11 a.m. Breaking-of-Bread (for Believers only).
Sunday 8 p.m. Special Service.
Monday 8 p.m. Special Meeting for members of the Church.
Tuesday 8 p.m. Bible Study.
Thursday 8 p.m. Prayer Meeting.
Saturday 3 p.m. Young People's Meeting.
All English speaking friends are welcome.

NOTICE

LIBERTY THEATRE

The Management wish to thank all friends who attended the Ceremonial Opening of the Theatre on January 28th and for the gifts and encouragement received.

NORDIC ALLIANCE TALKS FAIL

Oslo, Jan. 30.—Norway, Denmark and Sweden tonight announced that they had failed to agree on a union which would be free from alliances. A joint communiqué announcing this said the three countries would maintain and strengthen consultation on foreign policy and that the discussions had been conducted with "understanding and mutual trust."

It was learned in Oslo tonight that the Norwegian Parliament would meet in secret session this week to consider the United States' informal invitation to join the Atlantic Pact and a request from the Soviet Union for an explanation of Norway's attitude to the pact. Russia has asked for the explanation because Norway and the Soviet Union have "common frontiers."

The Norwegian Prime Minister, M. Einar Gerhardsen, said tonight that the discussions for the joint defence of Scandinavia failed because the three countries assessed their security problems differently.

POLITE NOTE
"If sincerity and goodwill had been enough we should have achieved unity today on a Scandinavian defence union," he said.

The Norwegian Foreign Minister, M. Halvard Lange, said at a press conference tonight that Russia's note was "factual, calm and polite" and would be considered by the Norwegian Parliament and Cabinet before a reply was sent.

He said the Swedish and Danish delegates to the Scandinavian defence discussions were not told of the Russian note to Norway. The delegates learned of the note through the midday radio news bulletin.

Asked if Norway expected a new approach from the Western powers following the breakdown of the pact talks, M. Lange replied: "There is no reason to suppose so."

According to diplomatic sources here, Norway will tell the Soviet Union that she has not yet decided to join the Atlantic Pact. This will be the gist of her reply to Russia's query of yesterday.

Asked back this week by Norway's Moscow Ambassador, M. Hans Christian Berg, it will add that the Norwegian Government does not yet know the full details of the Russian note.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE
The joint communiqué by Sweden, Norway and Denmark on the Scandinavian defence talks, announced tonight, said that existing consultations between the three countries on questions of foreign policy will be maintained and strengthened.

The communiqué said the discussions among the three nations have been conducted in a spirit of understanding and mutual trust.

The Norwegian Premier is to make a broadcast later today on the political situation. Earlier today, the Norwegian Foreign Office confirmed the communiqué.

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PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

Copies of photographs taken by the South China Morning Post and Hong Kong Telegraph Staff Photographers are on view in the Morning Post Building.

ORDERS BOOKED.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Advertisers are requested to note that not less than 24 hours notice prior to the day of publication should be given for all commercial display advertisements, change of copy etc. Notices and classified advertisements will be received up to 10 a.m. and urgent notices until noon on day of issue. Saturdays - not later than 0930.

DEATH

DA ROZA.—Luz Alvaro ("Archie") died suddenly at his residence No. 40 Nathan Road at 12.55 a.m. (31/1/49). Aged 45. The funeral cortege will leave the house at 3 p.m. and will pass the Monument at 5 p.m. today. No flowers by request. Macao papers please copy.

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